

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 26, 2001 LB 657, 666

Corrections to the depreciation requirement for new buildings. So all of a sudden this Governor is committing himself to the Department of Corrections and all the buildings thereunder to depreciation charges and to that commitment. And that represents another commitment and another expansion of 309 in the direction that I think we all want to go. I, by the way, have been a supporter down the line of 309 commitments so it's not like we're trying...that the people who are supporting this bill are trying to divert funds from 309. So how much is that...how much is LB 666 worth?

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, if you look down the line at '01-02 and for all years down the line, there's another \$1.6 million that the Governor is adding to 309 funds. So I'm running out of time again, but I hope you see that now we're talking about \$5 million, in the neighborhood of \$5 million to \$6 million more that the Governor is putting into 309, notwithstanding LB 657. That's a pretty good commitment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Is Senator Wickersham present? Senator Wickersham, you're recognized to speak to the Wickersham amendment to the committee amendments to LB 657, followed by Senator Janssen, Senator Don Pederson, Senator Beutler. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, if I can continue with the comments that I was making about whether or not really the state needs to participate in this project or not, I'd like to do that before discussing the 309 fund because, even though I disagree with some of what I've heard Senator Beutler say about the 309 fund. The other point that I think needs to be made about whether there needs, quote, to be any state involvement in these projects, either for the city of Omaha or for the city of Lincoln, and I'll reiterate, for example, that the city of Omaha receives \$1.3 million on an annualized basis from parking meters. They're proposing to get \$1.5 million from us. But if, if this was an important enough priority for the city of Omaha to fund with local resources, whether that was parking meters or something else, even if they had to fund it out of local